

JOINT PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

ARMY-NAVY-CIA

(Published and Disseminated by CIA/PIC)

SUBJECT : Expansion of Tyura Tam Missile Test Range Instrumentation Site NO : PIC/JB-89/60  
 LOCATION: 6 nm NNW of Uka, USSR DATE: 12 May 1960  
 WAC : 132 LAT : 57°56'N  
 LONG: 162°01'E

25X1D

MAP DATA:

SAC. US Air Target Chart - Series 200, Sheet 0132-14A, 1st ed, May 59 (S)

REFERENCE:

CIA. HTA/JR-4/58, Missile Launching Complex and Test Range, Tyura Tam, USSR, Sep 58 (TSC)

REQUIREMENT: JPRC/R-7/60

REMARKS:

Photography of [REDACTED] covers an instrumentation site at 57°56'N/162°01'E, about 6 nautical miles north-northwest of Uka, on the Kamchatka Peninsula. This site was previously identified on photography of [REDACTED] in association with the terminal range facilities of the TTMTR (Instrumentation Site "A", p 44, HTA/JR-4/58). The [REDACTED] photography shows that this site has undergone considerable expansion [REDACTED]. This expansion includes 30-40 new support buildings, a large dome-shaped object approximately 100 feet in diameter, and a tall self-supporting lattice tower approximately 300 feet high. In addition, a possible 3,500-foot landing strip is adjacent to the site. The extreme obliquity and small scale of the photography preclude further identification of specific items.

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PIC/JB-89/60

The large dome-shaped object, resembling a radome, and a 300-foot lattice tower that may be used for calibration, suggest the presence of a large radar antenna. Since there appears to be ample downrange tracking and other instrumentation facilities already present in the TTMTR terminal range area, the addition of a large radar does not seem consistent with normal instrumentation and/or telemetry reception. Its presence at the Uka site, however, indicates that it is probably ICBM-related.

Because of the size of the assumed antenna and the apparent requirement for temperature and humidity control that would be fulfilled by a radome, it is suggested that the antenna would probably be used for skin-tracking a missile or re-entry vehicle.

The extensive expansion of other facilities at this terminal range instrumentation site lends credence to the possibility that another program, possibly ICBM detection, is being carried out here in addition to the normal missile tracking mission.

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